

Remarks

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present U.S. Patent application as amended herein. Claims 3, 4, 6, 8 and 12 have been amended. Claims 9 and 13 have been canceled previously. Claims 11 and 15 are canceled herein. No claims have been added. Thus, claims 1-8, 10, 12, 14, 16 and 17 are pending.

OBJECTION TO THE SPECIFICATION

The specification was objected to for an informality. The identified informality has been corrected herein. Accordingly, Applicants request that the objection to the specification be withdrawn.

CLAIM REJECTIONS – 35 U.S.C. § 112, FIRST PARAGRAPH

Claims 8, 10-12, 14 and 15 were rejected as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. Claims 11 and 15 have been canceled. Therefore, the rejection of claims 11 and 15 are moot. Specifically, the claims allegedly contain subject matter that was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one of ordinary skill in the relevant art.

The claims have been amended to consistent with the specification as originally filed. For example, support for claims 8 and 12 can be found in paragraph 0025 of the application as originally filed. Accordingly, Applicants submit that the claims, as amended, satisfy the enablement requirement.

CLAIM REJECTIONS – 35 U.S.C. § 112, SECOND PARAGRAPH

Claims 3, 4 and 6 were rejected as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the invention. The claims have been amended to more distinctly claim the subject matter of the invention. Therefore, Applicants request that the rejection of the claims as being indefinite be withdrawn.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

Claims 1, 2, 5, 7, 16 and 17 were allowed. Claims 3, 4 and 6 would be allowable if rewritten to amend or overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph.

CONCLUSION

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicants submit that the rejections have been overcome. Therefore, claims 1-8, 10, 12, 14, 16 and 17 are in condition for allowance

and such action is earnestly solicited. The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone if such contact would further the examination of the present application. Please charge any shortages and credit any overcharges to our Deposit Account number 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,
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